

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box



PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0851-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if known

Application Number 10/082,520
Filing Date 2/22/02
First Named Inventor Nomoto, Mineo
Group Art Unit 2877
Examiner Name pham
Attorney Docket Number 16869P-041600US

1080 U.S. PTO
10/082520
02/22/02

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA					
	AB					
	AC					
	AD					
	AE					
	AF					
	AG					
	AH					
	AI					
	AJ					
	AK					
	AL					
	AM					
	AN					
	AO					
	AP					
	AQ					
	AR					
	AS					
	AT					

None

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
HP	AU	JP	2000-310512		Hitachi, Ltd.	11-07-2000		Abstract
HP	AV	JP	2000-077371		Nikon Corp.	03-14-2000		Abstract
HP	AW	JP	10-284297		Nikon Corp.	11-04-1998		Abstract
HP	AX	JP	10-083977		Applied Materials	03-31-1998		Abstract
HP	AY	JP	09-007885		Applied Materials	01-10-1997		Abstract
HP	AZ	JP	08-252113		Matsushita Electric	09-09-1994		Abstract
	BA							

Examiner Signature

[Signature]

Date Considered

2/21/04

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

PA 3203214 v1